



ST. THOMAS

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 18, 2022, 8:00 & 10:30 A.M.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST RITE TWO

If you must talk, whisper a prayer to God. Please turn off all cell phones.

PRELUDE

The Angel Gabriel

Robert Lau

The Lighting of the fourth candle

(three blue and one rose candles are lit by a family member)

These candles are lit by the Stokes family at 8:00 and
the Brown family at 10:30.

Reader: We light the fourth candle of Advent, the Angel's Candle.

We light a candle to remind us that Jesus is the Light of the world.
The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Celebrant: Our God and Father, we thank you for this Advent Season
that helps us prepare for the celebration of the coming of the Messiah, your Son and our Lord, at
Christmas. Thank you for sending Jesus to
save us from our sins. *Amen.*

HYMN IN PROCESSION

O come, O come Emmanuel (verses 7&8)

Hymn 56

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 355

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
People *And blessed be his kingdom now and forever.*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

HYMN OF PRAISE

Kyrie Eleison

Hymn S-96

**Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy, have mercy.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE FIRST READING Isaiah 7:10-16

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a `flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the `cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Ma`nasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to `help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of `hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be `saved.

4 O LORD God of `hosts, *
 how long will you be angered
 despite the prayers of your `people?

5 You have fed them with the bread of `tears; *
 you have given them bowls of tears to `drink.

6 You have made us the derision of our `neighbors, *
 and our enemies laugh us to `scorn.

7 Restore us, O God of `hosts; *
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be `saved.

16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right `hand, *
 the son of man you have made so strong for your `self.

17 And so will we never turn away from `you; *
 give us life, that we may call upon your `Name.

18 Restore us, O LORD God of `hosts; *
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be `saved.

THE SECOND READING Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:
 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People *Thanks be to God.*

SEQUENCE HYMN

Come now, and praise the humble saint

Hymn 260

THE GOSPEL Matthew 1:18-25

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public

disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

THE SERMON

The Rev. Ranie Neislar

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, FORM IV

BCP 388

The Leader and People pray responsively.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

We pray especially for Michael our Presiding Bishop, Glenda, our Bishop, and Brian, our Assisting Bishop; Donavan, our new rector, Virginia, Ranie and Jeannie, our clergy; and all bishops, priests, and deacons;

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

We pray for Joe our President, Kay our Governor, and Tommy our Mayor.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

We give thanks for the birthdays of Campbell McIntyre, Carol Covell, Aaron Suarez, Linda Thompson, Tyler Knickelbein, Rena Anderson, William Slagle, Chris Allison, Susan Smith, and Betsy Prescott.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

We pray especially for Harvey Adams, Cindy & Tom Atkins, Nancy Dudley Clayton, Darlene Davis, Maureen Drost, Mary Gant, Lydia Goebel, Kathy Heim, Diane Hutson, Ann Knowles, Pamela Lloyd, Jack Mayo, Larry Meyer, Linda Mixon, Lip Moy, Dan Seaman, Jean & Jack Simon, Brenda & Horton Smith, Susan Smith, Jim Stilson, Al Stokes, Kay Strobel, Elizabeth Tagg, and Jane Williams, let us pray to the Lord.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Especially for Kevin Alspaugh and Barbara (friend of G. Mauldin).

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We ask your prayers for our Colonia Episcopal Students Ligia, Kensy, Wilson, Maycol, Eric M., Seylin, Jennifer, Jeimy, Josselin, Marcos, Jefferson, Jeison, Erick S., Anthony, Kimberlyn, Saira, Alex, Escarleth, Erlin, and Anderson.

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

BCP 360

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,**

**and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People ***And also with you.***

The Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

All who seek Christ are welcome at the Lord's Table.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

(8:00) Mary, Sweet Mary

Michell York, soloist

(10:30) The Angel Gabriel Tiffany Arbuckle and Keith Thomas Arr. Kathy Heim

DOXOLOGY

Verse 3 of Hymn 380

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP 369

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People ***It is right to give him thanks and praise.***

The Celebrant proceeds

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People ***Glory to you for ever and ever.***

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People ***By your will they were created and have their being.***

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Hymn S-130

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

People We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 364

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

FRACTION ANTHEM

Hymn S-164

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world;
Give us your peace, give us your peace.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

COMMUNION HYMN

Of the Father's love begotten

Hymn 82

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

HYMN IN PROCESSION

Savior of the nations, come!

Hymn 54

THE DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

Prepare the Way, O Zion

Paul Manz

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Sunday, December 21

Carols of Christmas

5:30 PM Singing in the Nave

6:00 PM Supper, Parish Hall

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve

5:00 PM Family Service

With birthday cake to follow

10:10 PM Musical Prelude

10:30 PM Festival Service with incense

With "spirited" hot chocolate

Sunday, December 25

Christmas Day

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rt. II

Sunday, January 1, 2023

New Year's Day

10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Worship Team for Sunday, December 14, 2022

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Celebrant | The Rev. Dr. Virginia Monroe, Interim Rector |
| Preacher | The Rev. Ranie Neislar, Associate Priest |
| Deacon | The Rev. Jeannie Randall, Deacon |
| Organist | Melanie Payne |
| Choir Director | Kathy Heim |

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 8 a.m. | |
| Eucharistic Minister | Todd Jurhs |
| Lector | Frances Steel |
| Ushers | Preston McGill, Bill Davenport |
| Greeters | Margie Harris, Donna Palumbo |

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 10:30 a.m. | |
| Eucharistic Minister | Sonya Carrier |

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Acolytes | Abby Randall, Brady Jones, Vivianne Brown, Walter Brown |
| Lectors | Elysa Jones, Natalie Brock |
| Ushers | Kelly & Ted Evans |
| Greeters | Susy & Bob Thurber |
| Vestry on Duty | John Hanson, Scott Moore |
| Flower Guild | Lois Adams |
| Altar Guild | Pat & Al Johnson, Penny Nielsen, Barbara Meyer |
| Breakfast | The A Team |
| Refreshments | Nancy Teasdale |
| Wednesday Night | St. Thomas Choir |
| Advent Supper | |

OUR PRAYERS FOR DECEMBER 18, 2022

We pray for the ill or distressed: **Doris, Betty** (K. Allison's mother & friend); **Joy, Sonya, Hunter** (L. Atkins' mother, friends); **Dean, Brian, Robert Lee, Brook** (D. Baker's father, brother, friends); **Jean** (M. Bannister's mother); **Sam** (S. Barnett's son); **Pam** (B. Beene's sister); **Frances** (M. Bestor's aunt); **Brenda** (K. Boyer's friend); **Stephen** (Brecciaroli's son-in-law); **Travis** (E. Cantrell's nephew); **Glenda, Thomas** (K. Carter's mother & brother); **Frankie Lou, Faye, Hinson family, Dinsmore family** (A. Chilton's friends); **Dave** (W. Christian's friend); **Maria** (A. Clark's relative); **Mary, Mark** (D. Clark's niece, friend); **Elizabeth, Mack, Debbie** (K. Clayton's friends & cousins); **Randy** (T. Clements' brother-in-law); **Laura, Ralph** (Conovers' friends); **Brad** (C. Covell's brother); **Rob** (Covell's friend); **Cailey** (J. Crowley's grandchild); **Barbie** (J. Crown's daughter-in-law); **Bill** (B. Davenport's father); **Tom & Lenore** (P. Demos parents); **Bob & Virginia** (J. Demos relatives); **Fred** (B. Dodson's relative); **Charlotte, Lois-Anne, Al** (C. Doyle's mother, friends); **Brandey** (Drachlis' daughter); **James** (E. Duling's brother); **Cindy** (D. Eppling's daughter); **Jim** (Erwins' friend); **Dan** (C. Erwin's brother); **Tanya** (J. Eskew's sister-in-law); **Kim** (K. Evans relative); **Jan** (M. Evans' friend); **Sarah** (Fambroughs' goddaughter); **Marcella** (L. Fowler's mother); **Martha** (O. Gibson's relative); **August** (Glandon's grandson); **Dominic** (B. son); **Brenda, Hugh** (G. Griffith's friends); **Greg** (D. Halsey's son); **Heather** (Hammonds' daughter); **David Nast** (J. Harper's in-law); **Libby** (M. Harris' friend); **Betty Christopher** (B. Harwell's friend); **Michael, Patrick** (D. Hattaway's brother, friend); **Carwin** (N. Hasbrouck's friend); **Luke** (Haulers' cousin); **Haley** (D. Hutson's friend); **Richard, Susan** (P. Johnson's friends); **Ann** (E. Jones' friend); **Lois, Holland** (J. Jurhs' friend & daughter); **Alfreda & Anthony** (S. Kittle's sister & relative); **Judy** (C. Knickelbein's aunt); **Paul** (L. Kreider's father); **John** (A. Larkin's brother); **Clayton, Charlotte, Emma** (A. Lee's grandfather, friends); **Jerry, Dennis** (T. Lee's father, brother); **Amy Beth & Melissa** (P. Lloyd's daughter & relative); **Sandra, Amy** (K. MacLeod's relatives); **Florence & her family; Dan** (D. McCauley's cousin & brother); **Nancy, Liam** (G. McCoy's daughter & great-grandson); **Jesse** (C. McGill's son); **Kavin** (T. Mauldin's friend); **Alex** (Meisters' family); **Don** (S. Meister's father); **Gail** (B. J. Merchant's friend); **Billy, Susan** (B. Meyer's relatives); **Rev. Bernard, Will, Ann** (L. Mixon's friends); **Bambi, Pat** (S. Mohler's parents); **Chelsea & Eliot** (M. Miller's friends); **Daisy** (W. Moore's mother); **Lipford & Nelson** (L. Moy's brothers); **Frank, Ronnie** (Moys' in-law, friend); **Mac** (E. Naderi's father); **Paul** (P. Nielsen's son); **Frances** (N. Oberlies' & P. Lloyd's friend); **Laura, Addie, Gina** (Pernas' daughter, granddaughter, daughter); **Hadley, Doug** (T. Perry's friends); **Sherry** (B. Perry's sister); **John** (L. Potter's friend); **David** (B. Rackley's son); **Nora** (granddaughter of the Robbs); **Charley, Dick, Teresa** (R. Ross' friends); **Janett** (L. Ryder's friend); **Nancy, Lorri** (C. Seaman's sister, sister-in-law); **Maureen** (M. Shaw's grandmother); **Alan; Mack; Kimberly, Shelia, Maddie** (S. Smith's son; family; friends); **Linda** (friend of B & H Smith); **Chuck** (father-in-law of A.F. Pinion); **Yvonne and Lillian** (friends of the Steel's); **Pam** (friend of B. Stilson); **Zach** (J. Stokes' friend); **Kay** (C. Sutton's mother); **Bridget** (T. Talley's daughter); **Dorothy** (G. Taylor's friend); **Sharon, Valerie** (N. Teasdale's friends); **Gina** (L. Thurber's friend); **Jeremy, Lana** (relative & daughter of L. West); and **Susie, Ken** (W. Wright's sister, friend).

We pray for those who serve in and with the United States Armed Forces, especially: **Ben Cathcart** (Bannisters' son-in-law); **Christian Clark** (D. Clark's son); **Graem Cook; Benjamin** (L. Cooper's son, L. Anders' grandson); **Bob Devenish, Christopher Hahnemann** (Crowns' nephew); **Logan Dodson** (Dodsons' grandson); **Kathryn & Juan Muñera** (M. Erker's daughter, son-in-law); **Brantley Scoggins** (P. & A. Evans'

friend); **Zach Young** (N. Fisher's son-in-law); **Nick Moultrie, Parker Byrd, Chris Garcia** (J. Fletcher's friends); **Christopher Harris** (M. Harris' son); **Grover Lee Wilson, Teddy Lovejoy, Zane Goodnite** (S. Kittle's relatives); **Drexel Martin** (C. Knickelbein's cousin); **Patrick Macala** (R. Macala & K. Clayton's son); **Jackson Mayo** (Mayos' grandson); **Julia Flores** (D. McCauley's cousin); **Ben Meyer** (B. & L. Meyer's grandson); **Denise Marr; Luke, J. R.** (K. Strobel's friends) and **Daniel** (L. Thames' son).

The Staff of St. Thomas

The Rev. Dr. Virginia Monroe, Interim Rector

vmonroe@stthomashuntsville.org

The Rev. Ranie Neislar, Associate Priest

associate@stthomashuntsville.org

The Rev. Jeannie Randall, Deacon

Jrann228@gmail.com

Kathy Heim, Choir Director

music@stthomashuntsville.org

Melanie Payne, Organist

payneme67@gmail.com

Laura Beth Bestor, Children's Coordinator

children@stthomashuntsville.org

The Rev. Jeannie Randall, Youth Coordinator

youth@stthomashuntsville.org

Irene Smith, Bookkeeper

finance@stthomashuntsville.org

Dorothy Bolton, Parish Administrator

stthomas@stthomashuntsville.org

2022 Vestry Members

George Harriman, Senior Warden Ted Evans, Junior Warden

Cynthia Geis, Bob Harwell, Suzanne Mohler, Jenna Pirani

Mike Bestor, Linda Lou Hardison, Elysa Jones, Scott Moore

John Hanson, Donna Palumbo

Wyn Christian, Vestry Clerk Bob Thurber, Parish Treasurer

St. Thomas Episcopal Church Contact Information

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The Week at-a-Glance

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Sunday, Dec 18 | |
| 8:00 AM | Holy Eucharist, Nave Nursery Available |
| In Between Servces | A Reception honoring Virginia |
| 10:30 AM | Holy Eucharist, Nave Nursery Available |
| 5:00 PM | St. Thomas Night, Bring your sides and and/or desserts for supper following Eek! |
| | |
| Wednesday, Dec 21 | |
| 9:30 AM | Bible Study, Conference Rm 1 |
| 11:00 AM | Bible Study, Conference Rm 1 |
| 1:00 PM | Caregivers Group, Crossroads Rm |
| 5:30 PM | Carols of Christmas, Nave |
| 6:00 PM | Supper, Parish Hall |
| 7:00 PM | Choir Rehearsals, Choir Room |
| | |
| Saturday, Dec 24 | |
| 5:00 PM | Christmas Eve Service, Nave with birthday cake to follow |
| 10:10 PM | Musical Prelude with guest musicians |
| 10:30 PM | Festival Christmas Eve Service with incense and following hot chocolate |

Sunday, Christmas Day, Dec 25

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite !!

Sunday, New Years Day, Jan I, 2023

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II

Office Closings – Monday, Dec 26 and Jan 2

St. Thomas Night is at **5:00 PM Sunday, December 18**. Supper will follow. **The fellowship committee will provide the meat, but we need your favorite sides and/or desserts.** This year we are revisiting the story of Christ's birth through the lens of a crowd favorite—**Eek!**

Christmas Flowers — Christmas flowers are a wonderful way to remember your loved ones. Christmas offertory envelopes are in the church pews to use for your own memorials or thanksgivings. We must have your names no later than **Monday, Dec. 19**, for them to be included in the Christmas Eve service bulletin. ***We ask for a minimum donation of \$30 to cover the costs of the poinsettias.

“I want to sing Christmas carols.” Sound familiar? This **Wednesday, December 21**, at 5:30 PM, come sing your heart out as we join our choir in Christmas Carols. Our choir members will also treat us to supper afterwards in the Parish Hall.

The office will be closed on Monday, December 26 and Monday, January 2.

Adult Christian Formation is on break until January. It will return on January 22 at 9:30 AM. Watch for more information.

The Grief Group will not meet again until January. Watch for details at that time.

Please join us for a reception in the Parish Hall on **January 15, 2023** after the 10:30 service to give a warm St. Thomas welcome to Father Donovan and Audrey along with daughters Erin, Abby, and Aoife. Would you like to help us? Volunteer with SignUpGenius to provide food for the reception. Find the sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094CA5A92FA02-welcome> Questions? Call Kathy Branick (256-882-3258), Kelly Evans (256-457-9447), Debbie Harriman (256-509-6606), or Martha Wilson (256-509-0970)

EPISTLE and Bulletin deadline: Tuesday at noon.